

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A belt driving device comprising:  
plural rollers including a driving roller;  
a belt configured to be tensioned by said plural rollers, and to be driven by said driving roller;  
an absorbing member configured to absorb shock to said driving roller or an outside body;  
wherein said driving roller is arranged adjacent to where ~~[[an]]~~ the outside body contacts an outer surface of said belt.

Claim 2 (Original): A belt driving device according to claim 1;  
wherein said driving roller is arranged opposite said outside body across said belt.

Claim 3 (Original): A belt driving device according to claim 2;  
wherein said outside body is configured to contact to clean the outer surface of said belt.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A belt driving device according to claim 2;  
wherein said outside body is ~~composed of~~ a roller.

Claim 5 (Original): A belt driving device according to claim 1;  
wherein said belt is configured to support toner images on its surface.

Claim 6 (Original): A belt driving device according to claim 1;  
wherein said belt is configured to convey a recording medium.

Claim 7 (Original): A belt driving device according to claim 6;  
wherein said outside body is composed of said recording medium; and  
said driving roller is arranged opposite where said recording medium starts to be  
conveyed on said belt.

Claim 8 (Original): A belt driving device according to claim 7;  
wherein back-end of said recording medium is nipped by resist rollers when said  
recording medium starts to be conveyed on said belt.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Original): A belt driving device according to claim 9;  
wherein resonant frequency of said absorbing member is different from periodic  
frequency of vibration caused by that said outside body contacts the outer surface of said belt.

Claim 11 (Original): A belt driving device comprising:  
plural rollers including a driving roller;  
a belt configured to be tensioned by said plural rollers, and to be driven by said  
driving roller;  
a cleaning member configured to contact to clean an outer surface of said belt;

a pair of fluctuation absorbing member configured to absorb tensional fluctuation of said belt at an upstream and a downstream of said cleaning member in a direction which said belt is driven.

Claim 12 (Original): A belt driving device according to claim 11;  
wherein said pair of fluctuation absorbing members comprising;  
a pair of tension rollers configured to contact said belt at said upstream and said downstream respectively;  
a pair of springs configured to pull said pair of tension rollers to said belt respectively.

Claim 13 (Original): A belt driving device according to claim 12;  
wherein resonant frequency of said fluctuation absorbing member is different from periodic frequency of vibration caused by that said outside body contacts the outer surface of said belt.

Claim 14 (Original): A driving device comprising:  
plural rollers including a driving roller;  
a belt configured to be tensioned by said plural rollers, and to be driven by said driving roller;  
a outside roller configured to contact an outer surface of said belt and to be driven by driving source;  
a detecting means for detecting driving load of one of said driving roller and said outside roller;

a controller configured to drive another roller of said driving roller and said outside roller based on the driving load detected by said detecting means.

Claim 15 (Original): A driving device according to claim 14;  
wherein said detecting means detects the driving load of said outside roller;  
a controller configured to drive said driving roller based on the driving load detected by said detecting means.

Claim 16 (Original): A driving device according to claim 14;  
wherein said belt is configured to support toner images on its outer surface; and  
said toner images are transferred onto a recording medium passing through between said belt and said outside roller.

Claim 17 (Original): A driving device according to claim 15, further comprising;  
a direct current motor configured to drive said driving roller;  
wherein said detecting means detects a current of said direct current motor.

Claim 18 (Original): A driving device according to claim 14, further comprising;  
wherein said controller drive said another roller so that a peripheral velocity of said outside roller corresponds to a peripheral velocity of said driving roller.

Claim 19 (Original): A driving device comprising:  
plural rollers including a driving roller driven by a first motor;

a belt configured to be tensioned by said plural rollers, and to be driven by said driving roller;

a outside roller configured to contact an outer surface of said belt and to be driven by a second motor;

a controller configured to control said second motor by a less loop gain than a loop gain to control the first motor.

Claim 20 (Original): A driving device according to claim 19;  
wherein said belt is configured to support toner images on its outer surface; and  
said toner images are transferred onto a recording medium passing through between said belt and said outside roller.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): An image forming apparatus comprising:  
plural rollers including a driving roller;  
a belt configured to be tensioned by said plural rollers, and to be driven by said driving roller;  
an absorbing member configured to absorb shock to said driving roller or an outside body;

wherein said driving roller is arranged adjacent to where ~~the~~ an outside body contacts an outer surface of said belt.

Claim 22 (Original): An image forming apparatus comprising:  
plural rollers including a driving roller;

a belt configured to be tensioned by said plural rollers, and to be driven by said driving roller;

a cleaning member configured to contact to clean an outer surface of said belt;

a pair of fluctuation absorbing member configured to absorb tensional fluctuation of said belt at an upstream and a downstream of said cleaning member in a direction which said belt is driven.

Claim 23 (Original): An image forming apparatus comprising:

plural rollers including a driving roller;

a belt configured to be tensioned by said plural rollers, and to be driven by said driving roller;

a outside roller configured to contact an outer surface of said belt and to be driven by driving source;

a detecting means for detecting driving load of one of said driving roller and said outside roller;

a controller configured to drive another roller of said driving roller and said outside roller based on the driving load detected by said detecting means.

Claim 24 (Original): An image forming apparatus comprising:

plural rollers including a driving roller by a first motor;

a belt configured to be tensioned by said plural rollers, and to be driven by said driving roller;

a outside roller configured to contact an outer surface of said belt and to be driven by a second motor;

a controller configured to control said second motor by a less loop gain than a loop gain by which said controller controls the first motor.

Claim 25 (Original): An image forming apparatus comprising:  
plural rollers including a driving roller by a first motor;  
a belt configured to be tensioned by said plural rollers, and to be driven by said driving roller and to support toner images on its outer surface;  
a outside roller configured to contact an outer surface of said belt and to be driven by a second motor;  
a controller configured to control said driving roller or said outside roller so to increase torque when a recording medium approaches or gets out between said belt and said outside roller;  
wherein said toner images are transferred onto said recording medium passing through between said belt and said outside roller, further comprising;

Claim 26 (Original): An belt driving method for a belt tensed by plural rollers including a driving roller, comprising:  
driving said belt by said driving roller arranged adjacent to where an outside body contacts an outer surface of said belt.

Claim 27 (Original): An belt driving method for a belt tensed by plural rollers including a driving roller, comprising:  
driving said belt by said driving roller;

cleaning an outer surface of said belt by a cleaning member contacting the outer surface of said belt;

absorbing tensional fluctuation of said belt at an upstream and a downstream of said cleaning member in a direction which said belt is driven.

Claim 28 (Original): An driving method for a belt tensed by plural rollers including a driving roller driven, comprising:

detecting driving load of one of said driving roller and a outside roller to contact an outer surface of said belt and to be driven by driving source;

driving another roller of said driving roller and said outside roller based on the detected driving load.

Claim 29 (Original): An driving method for a belt tensed by plural rollers including a driving roller driven by a first motor, comprising:

driving said driving roller and a outside roller to contact an outer surface of said belt and to be driven by a second motor so that a loop gain to control said second motor is less than a loop gain to control said first motor.

Claim 30 (Original): An image forming method for a belt tensed by plural rollers including a driving roller driven by a first motor, comprising:

driving said driving roller and a outside roller to contact an outer surface of said belt and to be driven by driving source;

transferring said toner images from an outer surface of said belt onto a recording medium passing through between said belt and said outside roller;



wherein increasing torque to drive said driving roller or said outside roller when said recording medium passes through between said belt and said outside roller.